Rep. Ryan Applauds Health Care Tax Credit Extension

Provisions Approved by House, Included in H.R. 6517 (Omnibus Trade Act)

(Washington, D.C.) – Today, Congressman Tim Ryan (OH-17) noted that the House approved the extension of the Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC) provisions by voice vote last night. Language extending the provisions was included in the Omnibus Trade Act (H.R. 6517).

"In a difficult economy, the Health Coverage Tax Credit extension will provide security for individuals who lost their jobs, health coverage, and retirement security through no fault of their own," said Congressman Tim Ryan. **"These folks earned their benefits, and have relied on HCTC provisions to get affordable, continuous coverage necessary to lead healthy lives, and I'm proud to help ensure that they continue to do so."**

"I want to thank Congressman Ryan once again for his continued support of the Delphi Retires," added Bruce Gump, Chairman of the Warren Legislative Group for the Delphi Salaried Retirees Association. **"The inclusion of the extension of HCTC in H.R. 6517 is a huge step forward. It would not have been possible to get this far without the help of many, and especially the help of Congressmen Tim Ryan and Chris Lee in their recent letter. I encourage Senators Reid and McConnell to move this bill through the Senate with all expediency."**

The following HCTC and Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association (VEBA) provisions have been extended for 18 months and will expire July 1, 2012:

§ The HCTC program will continue to pay 80 percent of qualified health premiums, with participants paying the remaining 20 percent;

§ Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) recipients and Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) payees will continue to be eligible for extensions of COBRA coverage; and

§ HCTC extended eligibility will continue for qualified family members of participants after certain events (i.e., participant has enrolled in Medicare, passed away, or finalized a divorce).

The bill now heads to the Senate for approval.

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